

CLAIMS

1. Process for making a monofilament-like product from a precursor containing at least one strand of polyolefin fibres, comprising the steps of a) exposing the precursor to a temperature within the melting point range of the polyolefin for a time sufficient to at least partly fuse adjacent fibres and b) simultaneously stretching the precursor at a draw ratio of at least 1.0, characterised in that the strand is a spun yarn made from polyolefin staple fibres.
2. Process according to claim 1, wherein the draw ratio is from 1.2 to 25.
3. Process according to any one of claims 1-2, wherein the polyolefin is ultra-high molar mass polyethylene.
4. Process according to any one of claims 1-3, wherein the staple fibres have been obtained by stretch-breaking of a polyolefin multifilament yarn.
5. Process according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein the precursor contains plied and twisted strands.
6. Process according to any one of claims 1-5, further comprising a step preceding step a) of pretreating the precursor in order to enhance inter fibre bonding.
7. Process according to claim 6, wherein pretreating comprises applying an oil to the precursor.
8. Process according to claim 6, wherein pretreating comprises applying a polyurethane composition to the precursor.
9. Process according to any one of claims 1-8, further comprising a step of applying a coating composition to the product after steps a) and b).
10. Monofilament-like product comprising an at least partly fused spun yarn made from polyolefin staple fibres, obtainable by the process according to any one of claims 1-9.
11. Use of the monofilament-like product according to claim 10 for making various semi-finished and end-use products, like fishing-lines or cut-resistant articles.